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ABSTRACT

This book was written to serve the needs of persons who are interested in learning about leading, or who work within organizations and communities and wish to strengthen shared leadership. Each of the chapters of the book begins with a personal story or reflection designed to give meaning to the discussion that follows. Questions for reflection and journal writing, learning activities, and suggested readings are included in each chapter. The book is organized in nine chapters. Chapter 1 lays out some basic tools to use throughout the book. Chapter 2 serves as the basis for beginning to explore the meaning of leadership. Beginning with Chapter 3, the reader is asked to personalize the learning experience by bringing his or her own reason for leading into focus. Chapter 4 continues the process by encouraging a thorough examination of the context within which the leader intends to bring about change. In chapter 5, the process for uncovering a personal philosophy of leadership is engaged, and the reader is asked to develop a credo statement. Chapter 6 shifts the focus to consideration of others involved in the leadership relationship. This idea is expanded in chapter 7, which explores the meaning of community. Chapter 8 discusses the interdependent relationship between lifelong learning and leading and includes a tool for designing a personal leadership development program. The final chapter touches on personal choices that leaders make while "doing" leadership. The focus is on leading with integrity. The suggested readings are listed as 115 references at the end of the book. (KC)

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